

Average Payment Scheme extension

To help providers and barristers who are unable to access CCMS to submit claims to a sufficient level to support their business, the LAA has announced that the Average Payment Scheme will continue **until 12 January 2026, with final payments to be made on 19 January 2026.**

The LAA says providers and barristers should resume submitting claims via CCMS and only use the average payment scheme if no other option is available.

If you are opting in, a new declaration has been published on our restoration hub. From Monday 8 December you must use this new declaration.

A staggered recoupment process will begin on Monday 26 January, 2 weeks after the last opt-in date, with the first recoupments being applied to payments received on 2 February. This will allow time for bill submissions and receipts of payments and minimise risks of deficits forming on accounts.

For more information on how to opt into the scheme, and the recoupment schedule for average payments, please see [Legal Aid Agency cyber security incident - GOV.UK](#).

For guidance on how to submit claims via CCMS, please see [Civil legal Aid – Legal Aid Learning](#).